



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Curtis Lee Tinker

DETROIT MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL NARCOTICS CHARGES

A Detroit man was sentenced today to 120 months' imprisonment after being convicted of possession, sale and distribution of 49.6 grams of crack cocaine, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Curtis Lee Tinker, 50, of Detroit, was sentenced by United States District Judge Arthur J. Tarnow.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Valerie J. Goddard, Special Agent In Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Tinker pleaded guilty in December 2005 to one count of possession with intent to distribute more than five grams of crack cocaine. The offense arose following Tinker's arrest on November 1, 2005, by Detroit Police Officers-Narcotics Bureau. Tinker was observed sitting in his vehicle, with the dome light on. As the police officers approached the vehicle, Tinker looked in their direction and tossed a balled up piece of paper from the window. The

paper contained several large chunks of crack cocaine, totaling 49.6 grams. At the time of his plea, Tinker admitted to possessing the crack cocaine for sale and distribution. Tinker was prosecuted under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

“The Project Safe Neighborhoods program focuses on taking serious offenders off the streets in order to reduce drug and gun crimes in our community. This sentence is another example showing that felons who commit these crimes face serious consequences,” stated U.S. Attorney Murphy.

Mr. Murphy commended the ATF and the Detroit Police for excellent cooperative effort and investigative work that led to this prosecution. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Susan E. Gillooly.